

IDENTIFICATION OF microRNAS AND THEIR TARGETS

Abstract of the Disclosure

The present invention relates to methods for identifying miRNAs and their
5 targets *in vivo* and *in vitro* applicable to situations in which one or both of the sequences
of the miRNA and the target nucleic acid is unknown. Further, the method applies to
situations in which the miRNA/target interaction is stable or unstable; unstable reactions
can be stabilized by the addition of crosslinking agents. The present invention also
provides methods of modulating the expression of a target gene in a cell by modulating
10 the activity of an miRNA in the cell that targets the gene.